

# Decision Quality for Exploration Well Path Optimization

Arlington, 14 April 2024



# Four slide summary of a four-year ODQ Implementation Program

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**Opportunity Statement**

02

**Implementation Maturation Model**

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**Relevant ODQ Program Steps**

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**Implementation Workstreams**



## Benefits of Implementing **Organizational Decision Quality**

**We see the opportunity** to achieve quantifiable improvements  
in terms of

**Speed**, **Value**, **Consistency**, and **Transparency**

of the decision making in OMV's Upstream project portfolio

New Ways of Working:

- ▶ ODQ is about **changing the dynamic of how we interact** with each other to promote **clarity in ownership, empowerment, accountability, transparency, and integration**

# Stepwise **Maturation Model** defines **Goals & Resource Allocation**

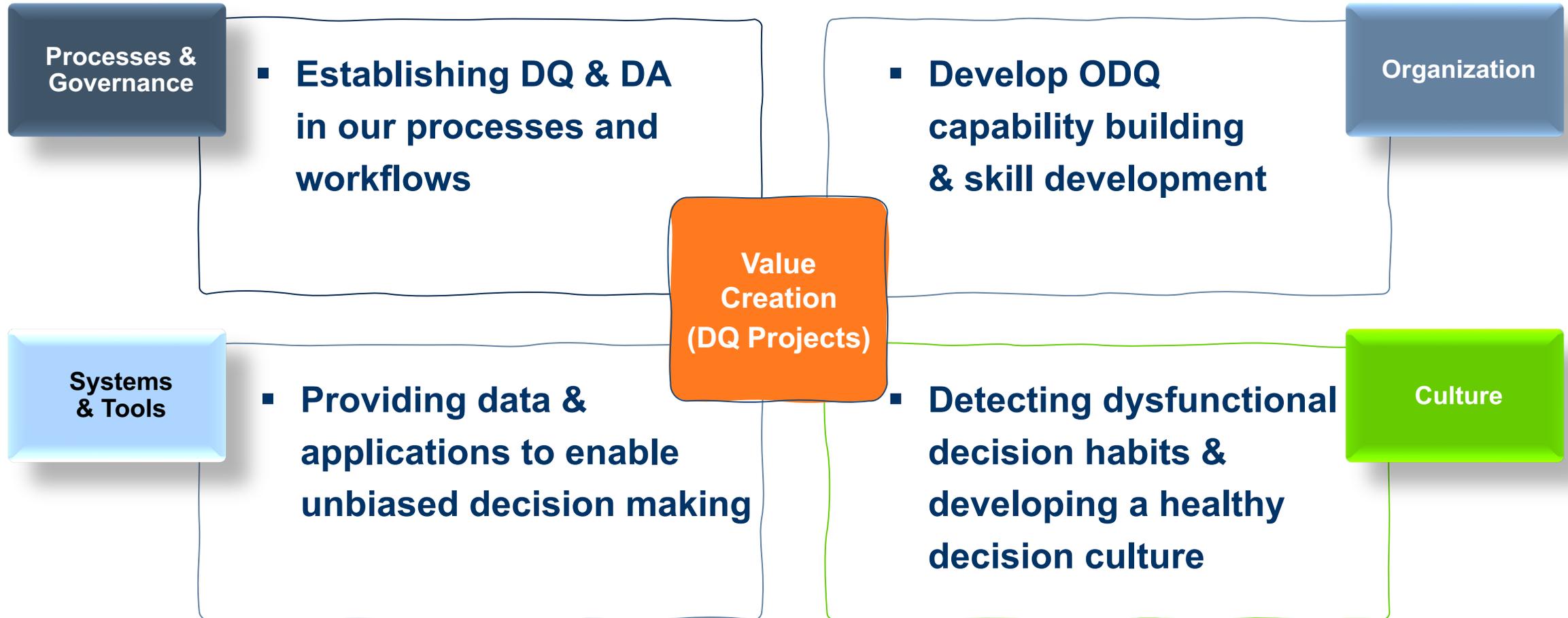


## Start of OMV's ODQ initiative

# Team Dynamics in a Major Capital Project triggered ODQ



# Multiple parallel aspects drive the ODQ Implementation



# DQ Pioneers in OMV Exploration

## DQ Steering Committee



Paul Owen



Greg Rock



Peter Krois



## DQ Implementation Team



Walter Kosi



Ute Sattler



Eddie Kwiecinski



Ralph Hinsch



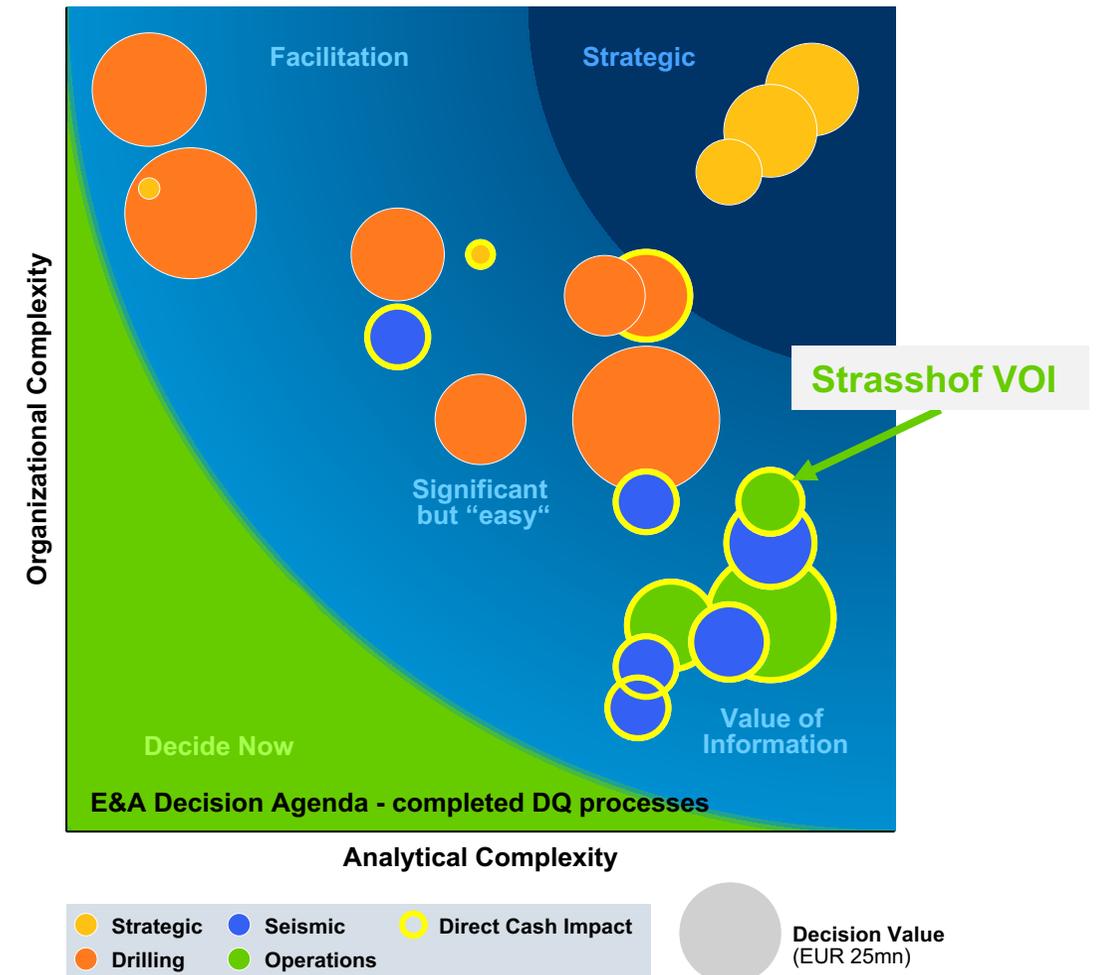
Michael Bierbaumer

## DQ in Exploration

The **Total Value** of the completed decisions is **EUR 400mn**

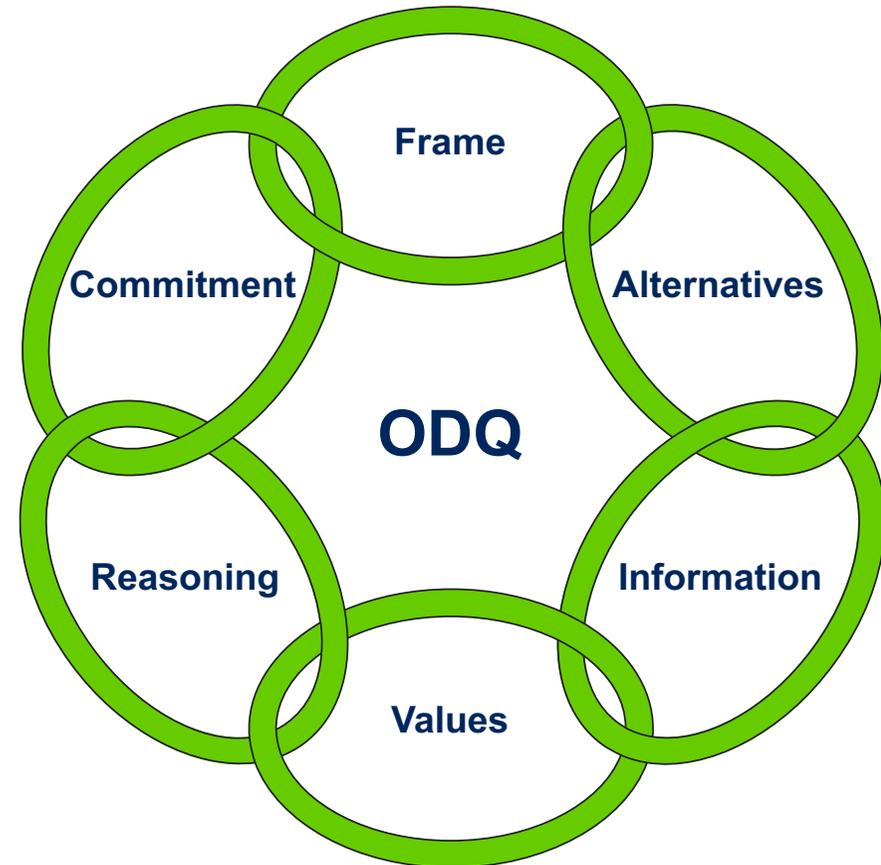
**Decisions** benefit mostly from:

- Getting clarity through **framings** and **alignment of stakeholders**
- **Progressive dialogue process** towards decision finding: **No recycling of activities**
- A more **comprehensive assessment of alternatives** and its **quantification**



## Decision Quality in OMV - Exploration

### Strasshof T 17 Well Path – Case Study from Austria



## Recycled Project which **Did NOT Pass** the Tollgate Committee

### *Prior to the Framing*

- The existing well path **with the Pilot hole, was NOT approved** by the tollgate committee

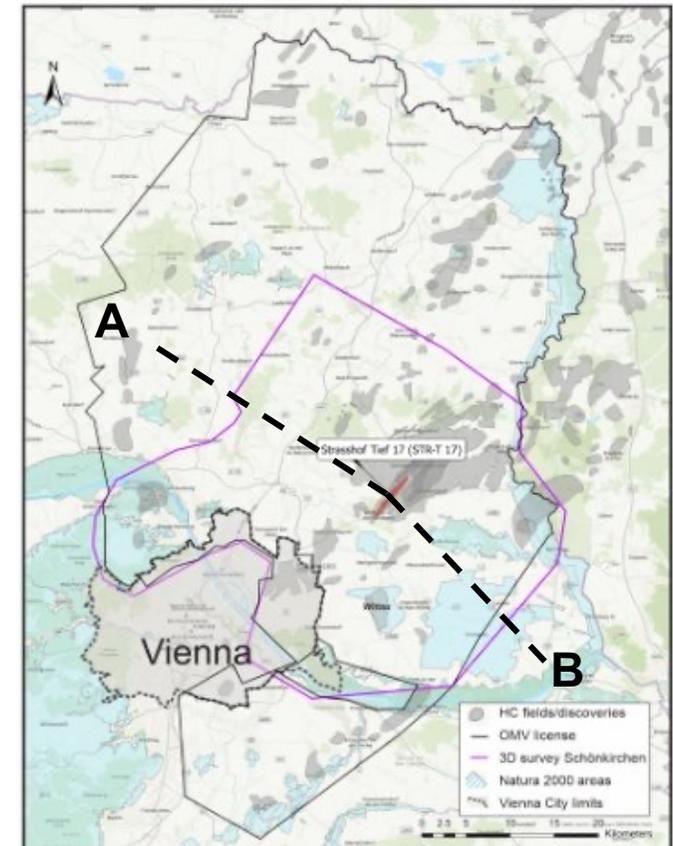
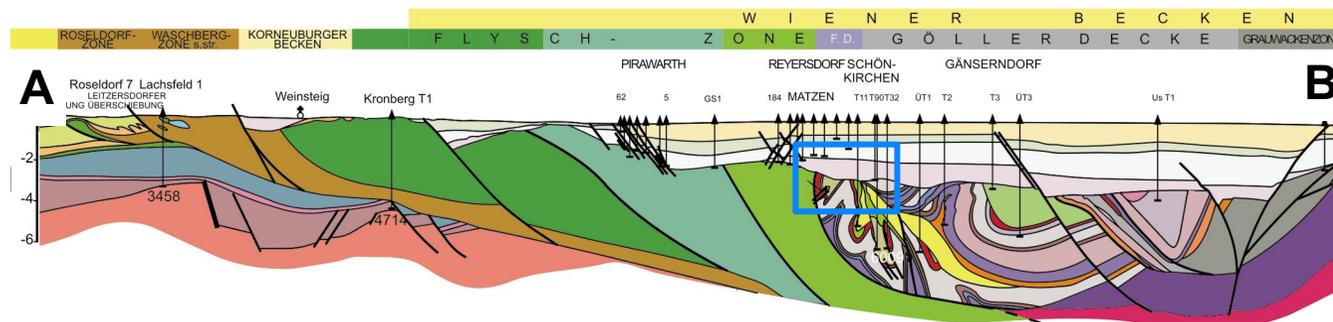
### *Problem Statement*

What is **the best way to drill the Strasshof T 17** exploration well?

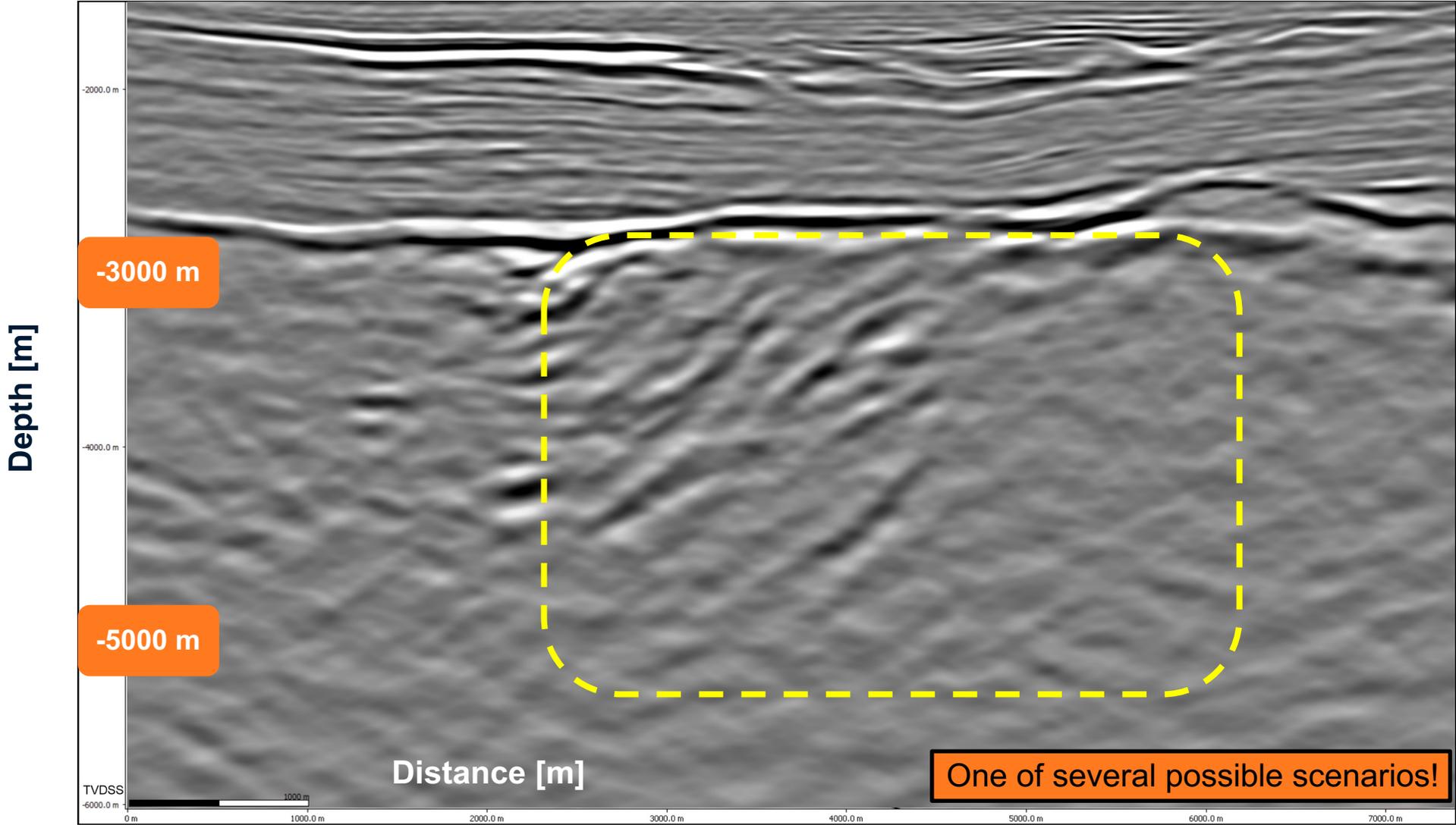
- How to **integrate the structural uncertainties** into the decision tree?
- How to **compare / rank various geological scenarios**?

# WHY: New Subsurface Concept to tap into Undrained Resources

- STR-T 17 is a well drilling project in the Northern Calcareous Alps below the Vienna Basin
- The Strasshof field was discovered in 2005
- Most subsequent wells had **technical issues** due to complex geology or issues due to **reservoir performance**
- **HOW: Drain the Upper Reservoir via the Lower Reservoir**  
(Exploration target: Coarse clastics)

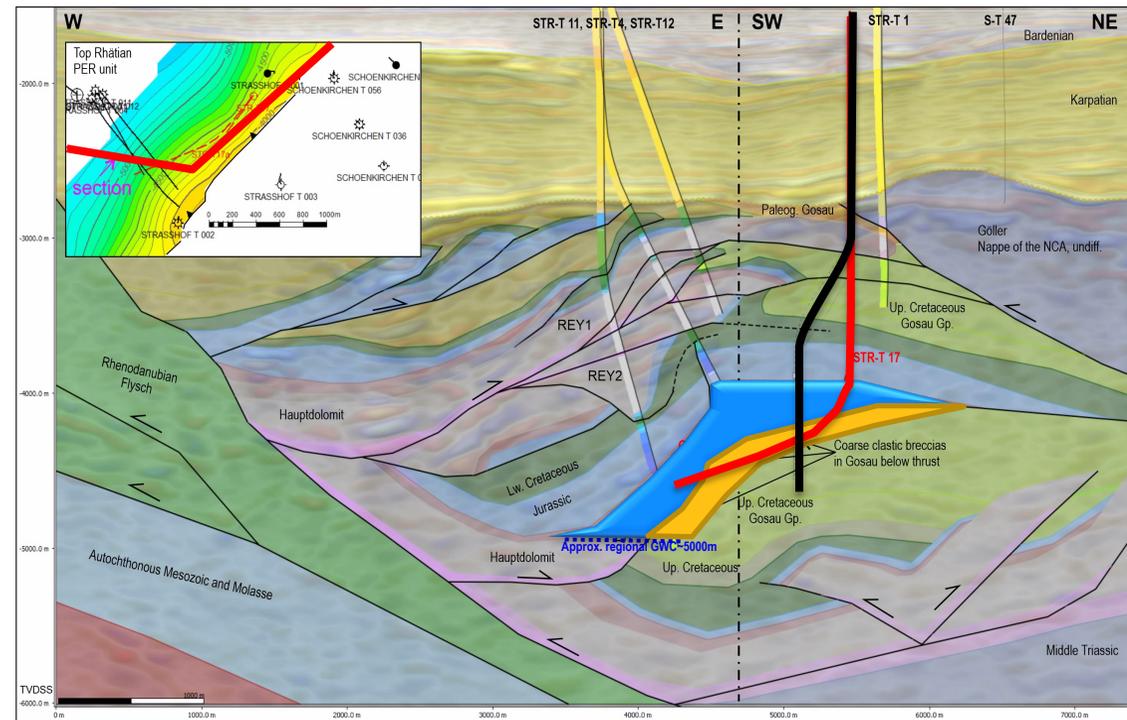
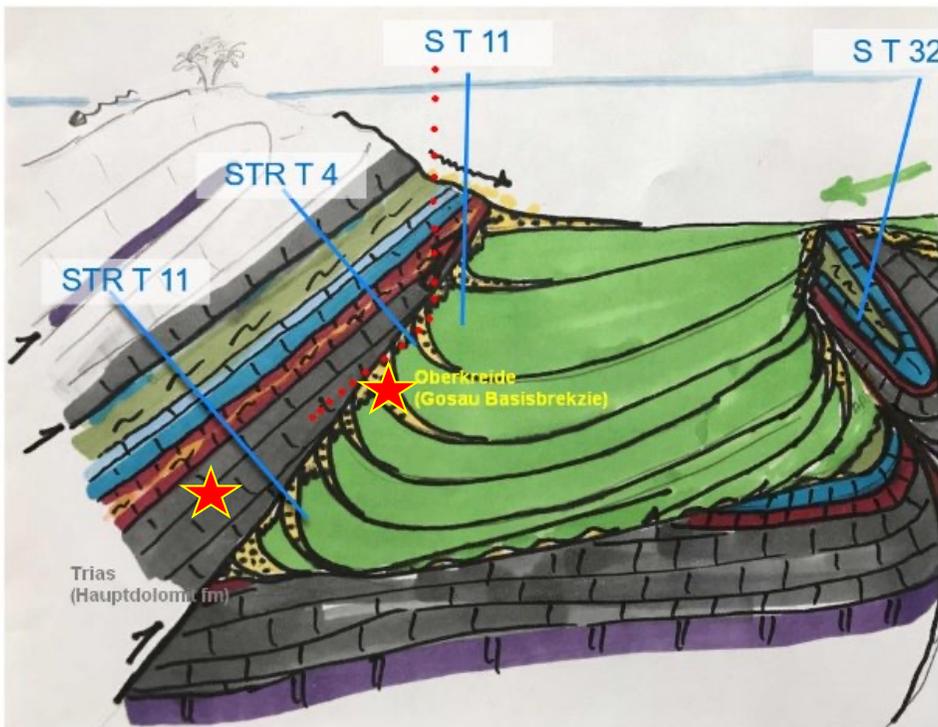


# Seismic Section: Challenging Subsurface



# Initial well path with Pilot Hole to Minimize Subsurface Uncertainties

- HOW:** Drill the **Pilot hole** to 1. **Appraise** the Upper Reservoir 2. **Explore** for the Lower Reservoir
3. **Fix coordinates** for placing **subsequent Appraisal and Production well**



# Before the Framing: Mindsets, Biases, Silos



# Decision Challenge: Do we need the Pilot Hole?

## Before the Framing

- The existing well path with the Pilot hole did not pass the tollgate committee
- Strong push to review and reassess the Pilot well concept due to:
  - **Subsurface uncertainties** - lessons learnt from previous wells
  - **Complex operations** - Drilling **two long sections**
  - **Expensive operations**

**Decision to run DQ** with the following goals:

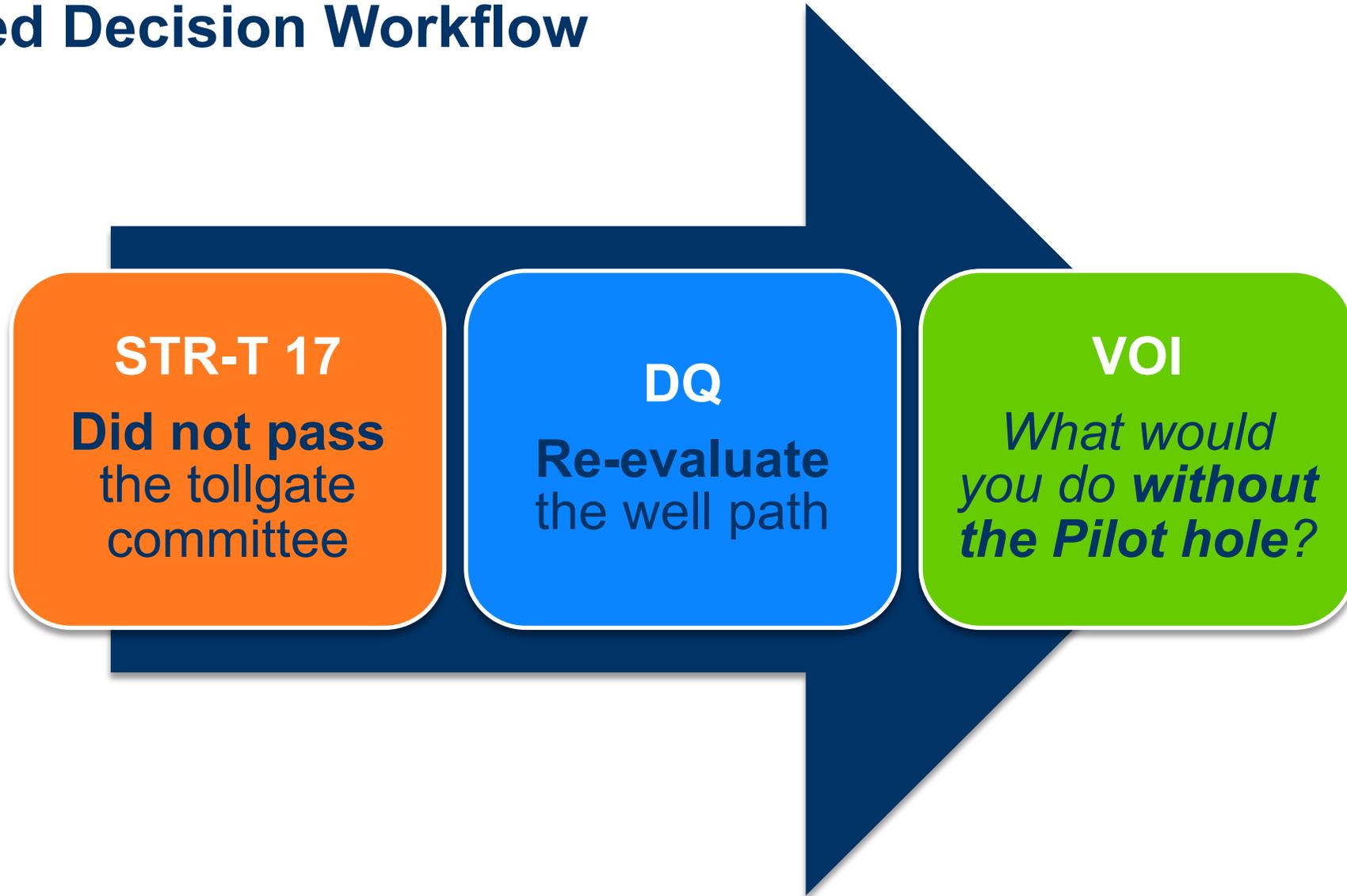
- **Re-evaluate** the pilot hole concept
- **Align & engage** all the stakeholders

**Decision Frameworks** helped the team to identify this as a **Value of Information (VOI)** decision challenge:

- VOI decisions require incremental economic analysis, where:
- **VOI = Value with information – Value without information**
- To evaluate **the value without information**, we needed to understand: ***What would we do without the pilot hole?***

DQ in OMV-Exploration - Strasshof T 17

# Simplified Decision Workflow



# Build & Evaluate a Base Case Without a Pilot

During the Framing, **alignment** on what we wanted to achieve:

- **Find the best** drilling concept?
- **Evaluate** the whole project?
- **Compare** drilling concepts?

## Givens

- **Surface Location**
- Well **always ends** in the Upper Reservoir
- Drill in **two sections**.
- Drill **no steeper than 70°** in 8.5“ section

## Decision Criteria

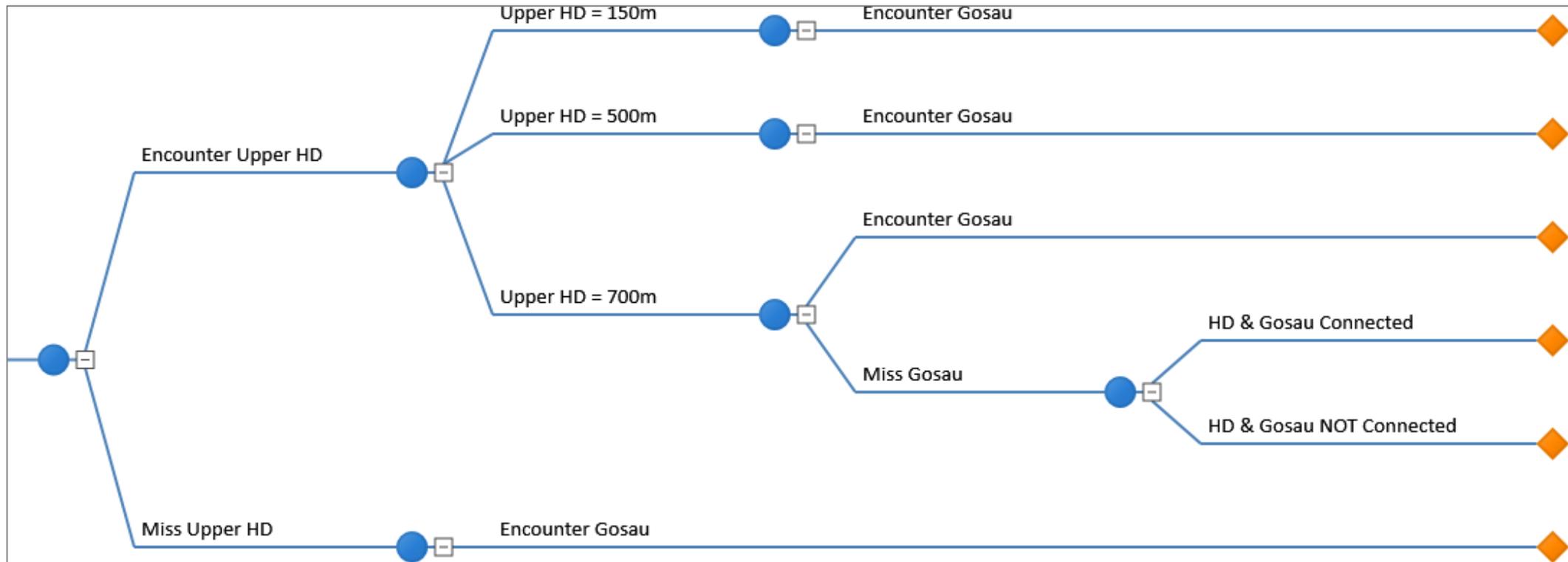
- **Economic Value**
  - **Reservoir potential** (volumes, contribution from both reservoirs, productivity)
  - **Well cost**
- Chance of **negative outcomes**
- Well **complexity** / drill-ability

## Main Uncertainties

- 3D Position of the **Trap / Structure**
- **Connectivity** of the Upper and the Lower Reservoirs
  - Would it be **possible to produce** from both reservoirs out of one well?

# Yes - No Decision Tree Does Not Represent the Real Complexity

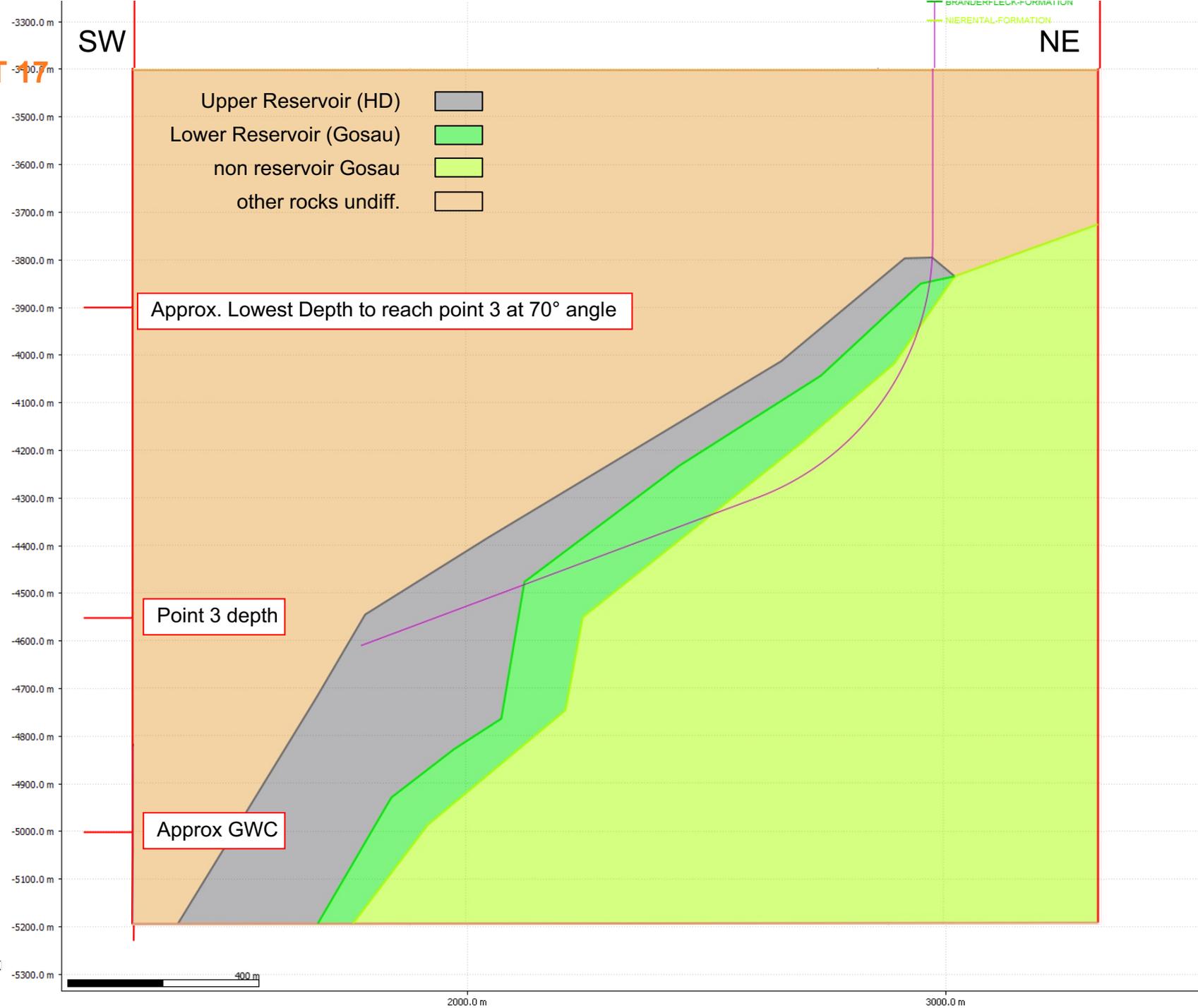
- **Decision Criteria:** Encountering Upper Reservoir (HD) **Yes-No**, encountering Lower Reservoir (Gosau) **Yes-No**



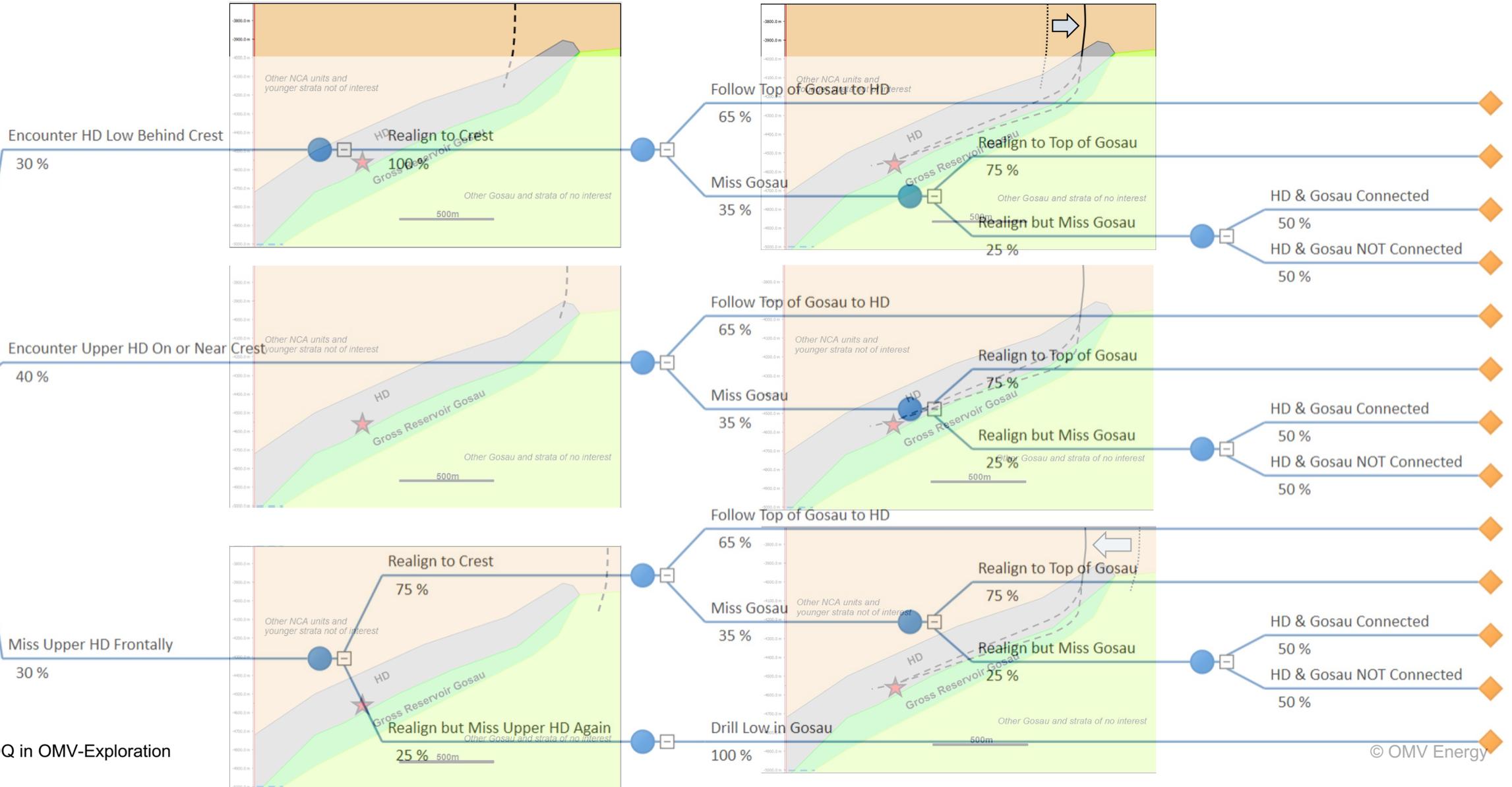
# Possible Scenarios

## Given:

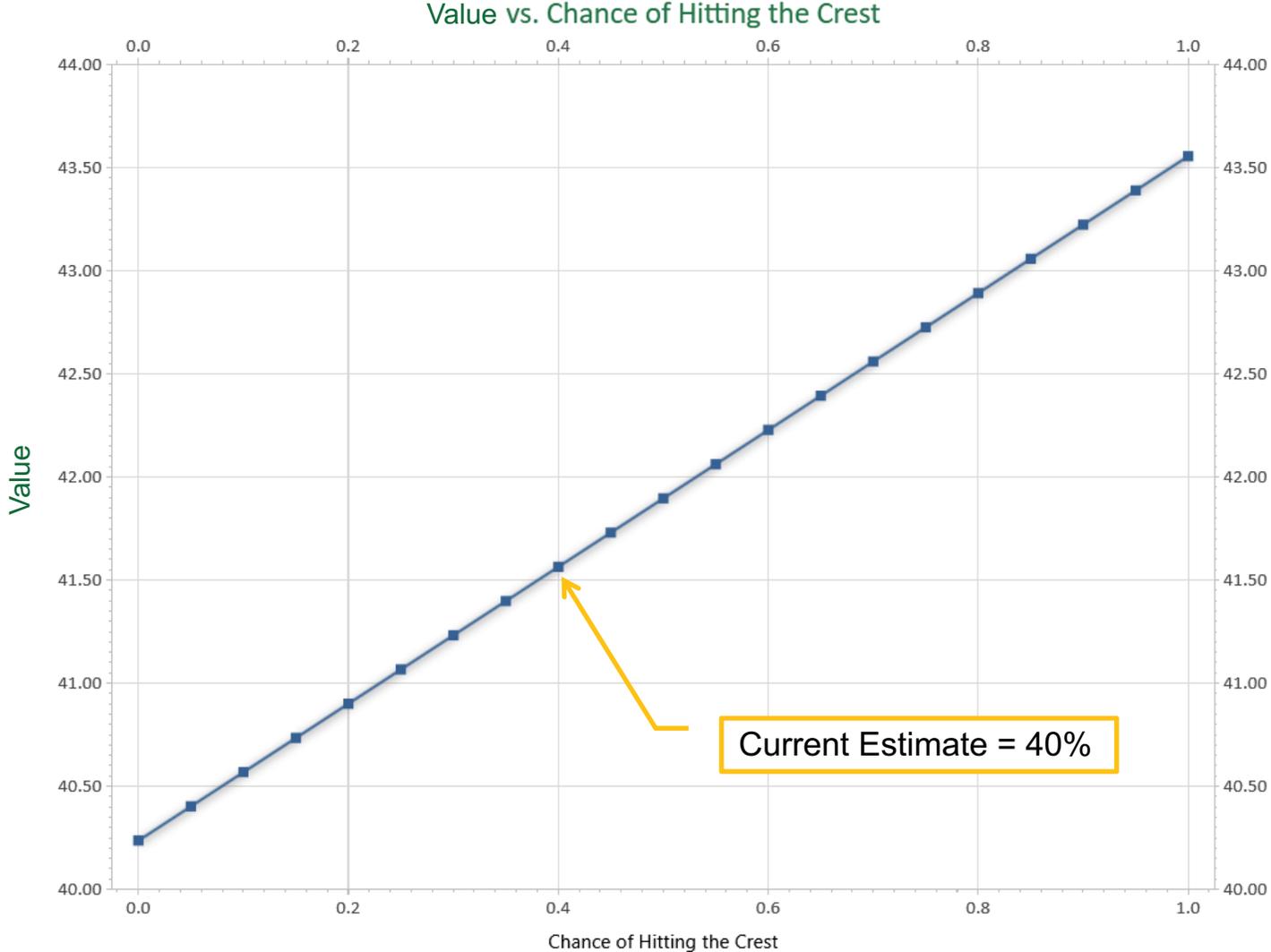
- Drilling in two sections **would always allow to take decisions**, based on the outcome of the drilled section
- Implemented into the base case



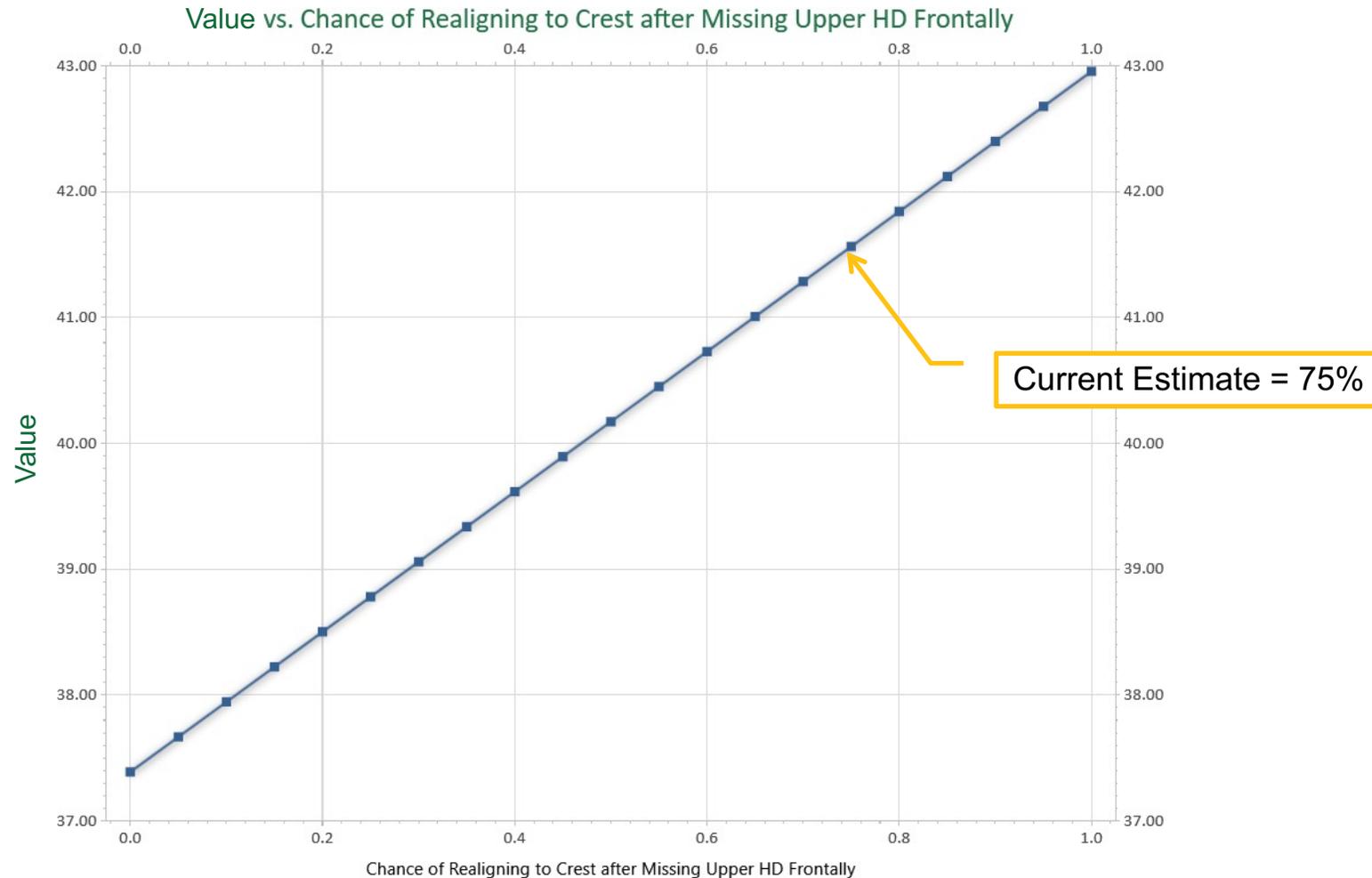
# Building a Decision Tree for a Base Case V2



# Sensitivity check: Chance of Hitting the Crest (12")



# Sensitivity check: **Chance of Realigning** to the Crest after Missing the Upper Reservoir (HD) Frontally (12")



## *What Have we Learned During the Analysis?*

- As the Upper Reservoir **will always be drilled**, there are **no absolute negative** outcomes
- Chance of realigning to the crest after missing it frontally are at **75%**
- **Only 11.5% of scenarios** result in reduced **NPVs**
- The alternative **drilling concept** reduces the well cost **significantly**

## ***DQ Proved to be a Powerful Tool***

### **Management Approval**

- The **new drilling concept WAS** approved by the Tollgate Committee
- The **various** assumptions were economically validated

### **Team Alignment**

- The **systematic approach provided the team with insights** that they not have had before
- The DQ workflow **was a very good team building and aligning exercise** (Geo, WE, RE, Mgmt.)

### **For the Upcoming Operations**

- The **decisions were broken down** to the individual sections
- **Decision trees have been designed** to facilitate the swift decision-making during operations

## DQ Caught *Decision Maker's* Attention

DQ proved to be a **powerful tool to analyze**,  
**decompose and clarify** complex (exploration) problems,  
thus, **simplifying** and **adding value** to decisions.